



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## Public Library

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Lynn Whitehouse  
619-236-5821

### **Library to Screen Award-Winning Film “Waging a Living”**

*Documentary Explores Elusiveness of American Dream*

**SAN DIEGO** – The award-winning documentary film “Waging a Living” will be shown Sunday, Aug. 13, at 2 p.m., in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St., in downtown San Diego. Sponsored by the City of San Diego Public Library and the Center on Policy Initiatives, the event is free and open to the public.

The term “working poor” should be an oxymoron. If you work full time, you should not be poor, but more than 30 million Americans — one in four workers — are stuck in jobs that do not pay the basics for a decent life. “Waging a Living” chronicles the day-to-day battles of four low-wage earners fighting to lift their families out of poverty.

Shot over a three-year period in the northeast and California, this observational documentary captures the dreams, frustrations, and accomplishments of a diverse group of people who struggle to live from paycheck to paycheck. By presenting an unvarnished look at the barriers that these workers must overcome to lift their families out of poverty, “Waging a Living” offers a sobering view of the elusive American Dream.

“In making ‘Waging a Living,’ I wanted viewers to understand what it’s like to work hard, play by the rules, and still not be able to support a family,” says producer/director Roger Weisberg. “It’s easy to take for granted the janitors and security guards in the offices where we work, the waiters and bus boys in the restaurants where we eat, and the nurses and care-givers in the facilities where we place our children and elderly. I wanted to bring viewers inside the daily grind of the nameless people we encounter every day who struggle to survive from paycheck to paycheck.”

“Waging a Living” has won several awards, including the CINE Golden Eagle Award and the Grand Prize at the New Jersey International Film Festival. Following the Library screening, a member of the Center on Policy Initiatives will facilitate a discussion. For more information, call the Central Library at 619-236-5800 or visit the Library on the City’s Web site at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

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*The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future*

Since 1988, PBS’ “POV” series has brought the best of independent point-of-view documentaries to a national audience, featuring the work of America’s most innovative documentary filmmakers to build new communities in conversation about today’s most pressing social issues. “Waging a Living” is scheduled to debut on national public television on Aug. 29.